

File

2 August 1967

118-L-106

MEMORANDUM FOR: William N. Morell, Jr.

SUBJECT : OER Reports Gaining Favor at Embassy

I think you will be interested to know that OER reports have been gaining a wide and appreciative audience among senior economic officers at the Embassy. Indeed, some of the reports I have passed to them have been so well received that a number of these officers now make a point of seeking the latest OER reporting on subjects of current interest to them.

IM 67-21, The Contribution of Imports to Communist China's Advanced Weapons Program, was used by Bill Owen, First Secretary, in preparing briefing materials on Western trade controls for Dean Rusk. At the Economic Minister's weekly staff meeting, Owen called the Minister's attention to the value and timeliness of this paper. IM 67-41, Communist Exports of Petroleum to the Free World in 1966: after I had summarized this paper for the Economics Minister, he asked me to pass a copy to John McGrath, who reports on basic industries. ER 66-15, Communist Market for Rubber through 1970: John Ingersoll found this report extremely useful as background for his participation in international rubber meetings. He asked whether he might hold a copy of it in his file for future reference. Other reports that have received favorable comment include 25X6A
USSR: About to Enter the Automotive Age? and [REDACTED] Economic IR 67-12
Role in the Development of Free Asia.

ER 66-15

I believe that this group's growing appreciation of OER products represents a not insignificant gain for the Office. This section, headed by a Minister and numbering well over twenty officers, represents almost the entire range of departmental economic interests--Treasury, State, Commerce, et al--and provides the bulk of economic reporting coming from State posts in Western Europe.

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